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EXAMINER

MOE, AUNG SOE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

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38

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/610,758

Applicant(s)

NAKATSU ET AL.

Examiner

Aung S. Moe

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-26, 28-38 and 40-71 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-26, 28-38 and 40-71 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 March 1996 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 37.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The indicated allowability of claims 8-71 have been withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Takahashi (U.S. 5,926,285). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 40-43, 45-46, 47-54, 56-57, 58-61, 63-64, 65-68, and 70-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takahashi '285 (U.S. 5,926,285).

Regarding claim 40, Takahashi '285 discloses a printer (Figs. 1 and 19, the elements 14 and 203) comprising: a printer housing portion (203) having a camera station for attaching a camera (201) to said printer housing portion (i.e., As discussed in col. 22, lines 10-30 of Takahashi '285 that the printer housing 203 and the camera 201 are connected by means of a sole data bus without using complicated wiring. Also noted that the camera VTR 201 is also

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known as Camcorder which is capable of operating by itself, thus, the camera VTR 201 may be disconnect from the printer housing for taking video pictures. In view of this, it is cleared that the printer housing 203 must include a camera station where the camera VTR 201 may be reconnected to the printer housing when the captured image by the camera VTR 201 is desired to be printed onto the print paper of the printer housing.), said camera having a display device for displaying a picture (i.e., as shown in Figs. 2B and 19A, the camera VTR 201/20 having a display monitor 202/45 for displaying the video image from the camera VTR 201/20; see col. 7, lines 5-10 and col. 18, lines 15+);

a printer mechanism incorporated within said printer housing portion for outputting a physical reproduction of said picture (i.e., as shown in Figs. 2C and 19B, the printer housing 203/14 contain a printer mechanism for outputting a physical reproduction of the picture by printing on the print paper; see col. 6, lines 4+, and col. 17, lines 50+); and

an operation system (i.e., the operation unit 230/232 and 76 and 67 as shown in Figs. 2C and 19) incorporated within said printer housing portion (203/14) for controlling said camera (201/20) attached to said camera station to select said picture for display on said display device (202), and for controlling said printer mechanism to output a physical reproduction of said selected picture (i.e., see Figs. 19A-19B and 23; col. 15, lines 24+, col. 16, lines 15+, and col. 18, lines 10+).

Regarding claim 41, Takahashi '285 discloses wherein said operation system includes a memory for storing said selected picture (Figs. 2C and 19A-19B, the elements 67, 71, 76, 230/232 and 231), said selected picture being stored within said memory before controlling said

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printer mechanism to output a physical reproduction (i.e., Printing on the print paper 204) of said selected picture (i.e., see Figs. 5, col. 16, lines 30+, col. 17, lines 40+ and col. 18, lines 10+).

Regarding claim 42, Takahashi '285 discloses wherein said operation system includes a printer setting means for setting the condition of said physical reproduction (i.e., see Figs. 19A/19B, the elements' 230, 232, 521 and 522; col. 16, lines 35+, col. 17, lines 55+ and col. 18, lines 5+).

Regarding claim 43, Takahashi '285 discloses wherein when said camera (201) is attached to said camera station (i.e., noted that the camera station is considered inherent feature of the printer housing of Takahashi '285), said printer mechanism (i.e., Fig. 19B) is structurally adapted to output a physical reproduction (i.e., noted the print paper 204) of said selected picture and said display device is structurally adapted to project said picture along a corresponding direction (i.e., see col. 17, lines 45-68 and col. 18, lines 5+).

Regarding claim 45, Takahashi '285 discloses wherein said camera is adapted to operate separate and apart from said printer (i.e., noted that the camera VTR 201 is also known as Camcorder, thus, the camera VTR 201 is inherently capable of operating apart from the printer 203).

Regarding claim 46, Takahashi '285 discloses wherein said printer mechanism prints said selected pictures on a printing paper (Fig. 19B, the element 204) as said physical reproduction of said selected picture (i.e., see col. 17, lines 50+).

Regarding claim 47, Takahashi '285 discloses a printer (Figs. 1 and 19, the elements 14 and 203) comprising: a printer housing portion (203/14) having a camera station for attaching a

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camera (201/20) to said printer housing portion (i.e., As discussed in col. 22, lines 10-30 of Takahashi '285 that the printer housing 203 and the camera 201 are connected by means of a sole data bus without using complicated wiring. Also noted that the camera VTR 201 is also known as Camcorder which is capable of operating by itself, thus, the camera VTR 201 may be disconnect from the printer housing for taking video pictures. In view of this, it is cleared that the printer housing 203 must include a camera station where the camera VTR 201 may be reconnected to the printer housing when the captured image by the camera VTR 201 is desired to be printed onto the print paper of the printer housing.), said camera having a display device for displaying a picture (i.e., as shown in Figs. 2B and 19A, the camera VTR 201/20 having a display monitor 202/45 for displaying the video image from the camera VTR 201/20; see col. 7, lines 5-10 and col. 18, lines 15+);

a printer mechanism incorporated within said printer housing portion for outputting a physical reproduction of said picture (i.e., as shown in Figs. 2C and 19B, the printer housing 203/14 contain a printer mechanism for outputting a physical reproduction of the picture by printing on the print paper; see col. 6, lines 4+, and col. 17, lines 50+); and

an operation system (i.e., the operation unit 230/232 and 76 and 67 as shown in Figs. 2C and 19) incorporated within said printer housing portion (203/14) for controlling said camera (201/20) attached to said camera station to select said picture from a plurality of pictures recorded by said camera as continuous motion images (i.e., noted that the video images captured by the camera VTR are continuous motion images; see col. 4, lines 25+, col. 7, lines 5-10, col. 8, lines 55+) for display on said display device (202/45), and for controlling said printer mechanism

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to output a physical reproduction of said selected picture (i.e., see Figs. 19A-19B and 23; col. 15, lines 24+, col. 16, lines 15+, and col. 18, lines 10+).

Regarding claim 48, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 41 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 49, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 42 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 50, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 43 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 51, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claims 42 and 49 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 52, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 43 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 53, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 43 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 54, Takahashi '285 discloses wherein said operation system includes a means for providing control to fast-forward (i.e., see Figs. 1 and 19, col. 16, lines 35-68 and col. 18, lines 20-65) said continuous motion images (i.e., noted the kinetic video image captured by the camera VTR as discussed in col. 4, lines 25+, col. 7, lines 5+, and col. 8, lines 55+) or to rewind said continuous motion images (i.e., see col. 8, lines 55+ and col. 18, lines 20-65).

Regarding claim 56, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 45 as discussed above.

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Regarding claim 57, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 46 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 58, Takahashi '285 discloses a method for printing a picture from a camera (201/20) having a display device for displaying the picture (i.e., as shown in Figs. 2B and 19A, the camera VTR 201/20 having a display monitor 202/45 for displaying the video image from the camera VTR 201/20; see col. 7, lines 5-10 and col. 18, lines 15+), the method comprising:

attaching said camera (201) to a printer-housing portion (203) of a printer (i.e., see col. 22, lines 10-30);
operating a camera operation system (i.e., Figs. 2C, 19A-19B; the elements 230, 232, & 521) that controls said camera (201) to select said picture for display on said display device (i.e., col. 4, lines 25+, col. 8, lines 55+, col. 15, lines 25+, col. 16, lines 15+ and col. 18, lines 15+);

and operation a printer operation system to output a physical reproduction of said selected picture from said printer (i.e., col. 17, lines 55+ and col. 18, lines 10+), wherein said camera operation system and said printer operation system are incorporated within said printer housing portion (i.e., see col. 15, lines 35+; Figs. 2C and 19A-19B, the elements 230, 232, 521, 534, 234, 204, 76/67, and 91).

Regarding claim 59, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 41 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 60, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 42 as discussed above.

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Regarding claim 61, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 43 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 63, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 45 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 64, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 46 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 65, Takahashi '285 discloses a method for printing a picture from a camera (201/20) having a display device for displaying the picture (i.e., as shown in Figs. 2B and 19A, the camera VTR 201/20 having a display monitor 202/45 for displaying the video image from the camera VTR 201/20; see col. 7, lines 5-10 and col. 18, lines 15+), the method comprising:

attaching said camera to a printer housing portion of a printer (i.e., see col. 22, lines 10-30); operating a camera operation system that controls said camera to select said picture from a plurality of pictures recorded by said camera as continuous motion images (i.e., noted that the video images captured by the camera VTR are continuous motion images; see col. 4, lines 25+, col. 7, lines 5-10, col. 8, lines 55+) for display on said display device (i.e., col. 17, lines 55+ and col. 18, lines 10+); and

operation a printer operation system to output a physical reproduction of said selected picture from said printer (i.e., col. 17, lines 55+ and col. 18, lines 10+), wherein said camera operation system and said printer operation system are incorporated within said printer housing

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portion (i.e., see col. 15, lines 35+; Figs. 2C and 19A-19B, the elements 230, 232, 521, 534, 234, 204, 76/67, and 91).

Regarding claim 66, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 41 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 67, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 42 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 68, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 43 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 70, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 45 as discussed above.

Regarding claim 71, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 46 as discussed above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 44, 55, 62 and 69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi '285 in view of Finelli '676.

Regarding claim 44, although Takahashi '285 does not explicitly stated the use of "a locking mechanism" for locking the camera and the printer housing portion, it is obvious from the system of Takahashi '285 that the conventional camera VTR (i.e., noted that camera VTR 201/20 is also known as Camcorder) is coupled to the printer housing portion (203/14) via the digital interface without using a wire, thus, the locking mechanism is obviously need to be provided to releasably secure the connection between the camera VTR (201/20) and the printer housing (203/14), and this is further evidenced by Figs. 1 and 2 of Finelli '676.

In view of teaching of Finelli '676, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Takahashi '285 by providing the locking mechanism (i.e., Figs. 1 and 2, the elements' 67 and 72 of Finelli '676) as taught by Finelli '676, and such a modification clearly would provide an easy connector which is

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free from the inconvenience of complicated wiring or rewiring of the cable as desired by Takahashi '285.

Regarding claims 55, 62 and 69, please see the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 44 as discussed above.

6. Claims 8-13, 14-20, 25-26, 29, 31-34 and 35-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi (U.S. 5,926,285) in view of Uekane et al. (U.S. 5,559,554).

Regarding claim 8, Takahashi '285 discloses a printer (i.e., noted the video printer as shown in Figs. 1 and 19A-19B) comprising: a printer housing portion (203/100), a printer mechanism (i.e., this is part of the element 100 and 203 as shown in Figs. 1 and 19B) and an operation system (i.e., see Fig. 19A, the elements 230, 521 and 232; col. 15, lines 25+ and col. 18, lines 15+);

said printer housing (100/203) having a connector (i.e., noted the digital interfaces as shown in Fig. 1 and 19A-19B, see the elements 25, 44, 64, 66, 301 and 520), said connector (i.e., the digital interfaces 301 and 520) mechanically and electrically attaching a camera (i.e., the camera VTR 201) to said printer housing portion (203) (i.e., as discussed in col. 22, lines 10-30 that the camera VTR 201 and the printer housing 203 are connected by means of a sole data bus of the digital interface units without using a wire, this clearly implied that the digital interface units of both the camera VTR 201 and the printer housing 520 must be connected mechanically and electrically as claimed);

said camera (201) being irremovably connectable with said printer housing portion (i.e., it is cleared from the Figs. 1 and 19A-19B since the camera VTR is connected to the printer

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house 502 via a digital interface, the camera VTR 201 can be removed from the printer house as desired), said camera (201) being adapted to operate separate and apart from said video printer (i.e., noted from the Fig. 19A, that the camera VTR 201 is a conventional video camera, thus, the camera VTR may be disconnect from the housing portion 502, so that the video camera 201 may be used separately), a display device (i.e., noted the display monitor as shown in Figs. 2B, 3A and 19) is connected to the camera (i.e., col. 7, lines 5-10 and col. 15, lines 25+);

said printer mechanism being incorporated within said video printer housing portion (i.e., Figs. 1, 2C and 19B; col. 6, lines 5+ and col. 15, lines 25+), said printer mechanism outputting a physical reproduction of an image (i.e., Fig. 19B, col. 17, lines 50-65; noted the use of a recording medium, such as a paper), said image being captured by said camera (i.e., the camera VTR 201); and

said operation system (Fig. 19, the elements 230, 521 and 232; see col. 15, lines 35+) being incorporated within said video printer housing portion (203), said operation system controlling said camera (201) to select said image for exhibition on said display device (202) as a displayed image, (i.e., Figs. 19A-19B; noted that the image displayed on the monitor 202 may be selected by the controller 230 by manipulating the buttons 501-504, and it is also noted that the controller 230 is also controlling the printer mechanism so that the selected video image may be printed as desired; see col. 17, lines 5+, col. 18, lines 15-65 and col. 19, lines 5+), said operation system (i.e., the elements 230, 521, 232) controlling said printer mechanism (i.e., the printing part of the printer unit 203) to output a physical reproduction of said displayed image

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(i.e., noted that the image display on the monitor 202 may be printed on the print paper 204; see col. 17, lines 45+).

Furthermore, it is noted that although Takahashi '285 shows the use of a display device (45/202) which is connected to the camera VTR, Takahashi '285 does not explicitly state that the display device is incorporated within the video camera as recited in the present claimed invention.

However, above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Uekane '554. In particular, Uekane '554 teaches that it is conventionally well known in the art to incorporate the display device, such as a LCD display device (i.e., Figs. 1 and 7, the LCD monitor 6), within the camera VTR (i.e., noted the camera VTR as shown in Fig. 12) for displaying the image captured by the camera VTR and reproducing video picture signals from a video cassette tape.

In view of this, having the system of Takahashi '285 and then given the well-established teaching of Uekane '554, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Takahashi '285 by incorporating the LCD display device within the camera VTR as taught by Uekane '554 so that the overall system becomes simple to use, compact and light as obvious from the teaching of Uekane '554. Moreover, it would enhance the user convenience by contributing a self-image picture taking state when the camera VTR operated by itself (i.e., see Fig. 12, col. 5, lines 55+ of Uekane '554).

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Regarding claim 9, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said printer mechanism (i.e., the element 203 of Takahashi '285) prints said displayed image on a printing paper (i.e., col. 17, lines 50+ of Takahashi '285) as said physical reproduction of said displayed image, said image being selected from a plurality of video pictures (i.e., see col. 4, lines 25+, col. 8, lines 54+, col. 16, lines 35-68, and col. 18, lines 10-68).

Regarding claim 10, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system is used to select said image to be printed by said printer mechanism (i.e., noted from Figs. 19 and 23 of Takahashi '285 that with the use of the control panel 230, the operator may select the desired image to be printed by the printer 203; see col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 11, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said display device includes a liquid crystal display (i.e., see col. 1, lines 35+ of Uekane '554).

Regarding claim 12, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said image is displayed on said display device (i.e., Figs. 19, 26 & 27 and col. 8, lines 5+ of Takahashi '285; see Fig. 12 of Uekane '554).

Regarding claim 13, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said display image is controlled by said operation system (i.e., the elements' 505 and col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

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Regarding claim 14, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system (230/232) includes a shuttle ring, said shuttle ring providing a control to fast-forward said displayed image or to rewind said display image (i.e., col. 16, lines 35-68 and col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 15, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said shuttle ring has a play button integrally disposed therein, said play button providing a control to play-back (i.e., Reproduce) said image displayed on said display device (i.e., col. 16, lines 35-68 and col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 16, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said play button has a stop button integrally disposed therein, said stop button providing a control to stop operation of said camera (i.e., col. 16, lines 35-68 and col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 17, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system includes a pause button (i.e., Fig. 19, the button 503), said pause button providing a control to place said image displayed on said display device in a state of a still picture (i.e., col. 18, lines 25+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 18, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system (Fig. 19, the elements 230/232) includes a first memory button (i.e., the button for providing "pause/stop" as discussed in col. 16, lines 35+ and col. 18, lines 25+ of Takahashi '285), said first memory button providing a control to store said image

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displayed on said display device (i.e., noted the display monitor as suggested by the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554) within a recordable medium of said printer (i.e., noted the memory element of the printer unit as shown in Fig. 1 and 19B of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 19, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system includes a second memory button (i.e., the print control button as shown in Fig. 2C and 19 of Takahashi '285 for providing a respective control signals to access the image data to be printed from the memory of the printing unit), said second memory button providing a control to access said image data that has been stored within a recordable medium of the video printer (i.e., noted that the print button is used to access the stored image data from the internal memory of the printing unit for printing a stored image; see Figs. 5-6, & 19A-19B; col. 6, lines 15+, col. 9, lines 20+, col. 17, lines 40+, col. 16, lines 35+, col. 19, lines 5+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system includes an input picture button, said input picture button providing a control to input video data indicative of said image into a recordable medium of said printer (i.e., noted from the Figs. 19A and 19B of Takahashi '285 that the control button 230 of the video printer 203 is used as an input picture button for inputting image data into a recordable medium 204; see col. 16, lines 35+, col. 17, lines 30+ and col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 25, please see the Examiner's comment with respect to claim 9 as set forth above.

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Regarding claim 26, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system is disposed on said printer housing portion (i.e., see Fig. 19, the operation system 230 is integrated with the video printer housing as stated in col. 15, lines 35+ of Takahashi '285, thus, it is obvious to dispose on the printer housing as claimed to achieve an easy access to the control buttons provided by the operation system 230).

Regarding claim 29, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said printer housing (i.e., the elements 203 of Takahashi '285) portion includes a signal input and output connection terminal (i.e., noted the digital interface of the printer housing 203 as shown in Fig. 19B of Takahashi '285) disposed on said printer housing portion (203), said signals input and output connection terminal electrically connecting (i.e., it is cleared from Fig. 19 that the digital interface of Takahashi '285 is electrical connecting to the housing 203; see col. 22, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285) said camera (201) attached to said video printer housing portion (203) to said printer mechanism (i.e., noted the printer mechanism is located within printer housing 203 of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 31, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said camera is of a camera with a liquid-crystal display monitor (i.e., noted the teaching of Uekane '554 as shown in Fig. 12 for using a LCD 6 in the camera unit), and said printer (i.e., the element 203 of Takahashi '285) is operated while said image (i.e., from the camera VTR 201 of Takahashi '285) entered into said printer mechanism (i.e., see col. 17, lines 35+ and col. 18,

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lines 10+ of Takahashi '285) or the manner in which said printer mechanism is operated is visually confirmed on said display device (i.e., see col. 18, lines 15+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 32, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system (i.e., the elements 230/232 of Takahashi '285) includes a shuttle ring for displaying on said display device (i.e., noted the shuttle ring and the display as shown in Fig. 19 of Takahashi '285; see col. 16, lines 35-68 and col. 18, lines 20+) in a play mode, pause mode, fast-forward mode or rewind mode a picture recorded as continuous motion images (i.e., noted that the video images captured by the camera VTR 201 are continuous motion images; see col. 4, lines 25+, col. 7, lines 5-10, col. 8, lines 55+, and col. 18, lines 60-65 of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 33, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein the operation includes a memory operation means system (i.e., Fig. 2C and 19, the elements 76/67 and 230/232 of Takahashi '285) for storing video indicative of a video picture selected from said plurality of video pictures recorded as continuous motion images (i.e., noted that the video images captured by the camera VTR 201 are continuous motion images; see col. 4, lines 25+, col. 7, lines 5-10, col. 8, lines 55+, and col. 18, lines 60-65 of Takahashi '285) by said camera (210/20) in a memory (i.e., Figs. 2C and 19B, the memory 71 and 231 of Takahashi '285) of said video printer.

Regarding claim 34, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said operation system (i.e., noted the printer controller unit as shown in Fig. 2C and 19 of Takahashi '285) includes input operation means (i.e., noted the key input unit as shown in

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Figs. 2C and 19A of Takahashi '285) for entering video data indicative of a video picture in a memory of said video printer (i.e., noted from Figs. 2C and 19A of Takahashi '285 that the key input button of the video printer is used as an input picture button for inputting video data into a recordable medium of the printer for printing the specified image data; see Figs. 5 and 23, col. 4, lines 26+, col. 10, lines 10+, col. 15, lines 30+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 35, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said printer supports a camera operation switch and a printer operation switch (i.e., see Figs. 19A; col. 16, lines 45+ and col. 18, lines 5+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 36, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said image is selected from a plurality of pictures, said plurality of pictures being recorded by the said camera as continuous motion images (i.e., noted the continuous motion video images captured by the camera VRT of Takahashi '285; see col. 4, lines 25-30+, col. 8, lines 55+ and col. 18, lines 10+ of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 37, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said printer is a video printer (i.e., col. 17, lines 30-35 of Takahashi '285).

Regarding claim 38, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 discloses wherein said camera is a video camera (i.e., noted the camera VTR 201 and a video camera 20 of Takahashi '285).

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7. Claims 21-24 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi '285 in view of Uekane '554 as applied to claims discussed above, and further in view of Kozuki et al. (U.S. 4,507,689).

Regarding claim 21, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 show that the video camera (i.e., noted camera 201 and 20 of Takahashi '285) is connected to the printer housing (14/203) via a digital interfaces which includes a signal input/output terminal for connecting the camera VTR and the printer housing thereby the wiring can be further simplified and the size of the camera VTR can be significantly reduced (i.e., see col. 22, lines 10-30 of Takahashi '285). Additionally, it is noted that the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 does not explicitly show the use of a plurality of guide rails as recited in present claimed invention.

However, it is cleared from the disclosure of Takahashi '285 (i.e., see col. 22, lines 20-30 of Takahashi '285) that it is desired to simplify use the connection means which would eliminate a complicated wiring, thus, it would have been obvious to provide a connector having plurality guide rails as taught by Kozuki '689 (i.e., noted the plurality of guide rails 101/201/301 and 503 for connecting the camera with the external equipment 500) so that it would provide an easy connector which is free from the inconvenience of complicated wiring or rewiring of the cable thereof.

In view of the above, having the system of Takahashi '285 and then given the well-established teaching of Kozuki '689, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in

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the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Takahashi '285 by providing the plurality of guide rails (i.e., Fig. 1) as taught by Kozuki '689, and such a modification clearly would provide an easy connector which is free from the inconvenience of complicated wiring or rewiring of the cable thereof so that the operability of the video camera is improved (i.e., see col. 1, lines 20+ of Kozuki '689).

Regarding claim 22, when the system of Takahashi '285 is modify as taught by Kozuki '689, it would obviously provide the guide rails (i.e., the elements 101/503) being structurally adapted for guiding the camera (201/20) onto the printer housing portion (203/14).

Regarding claim 23, the combination of Takahashi '285, Uekane '554 and Kozuki '689 shows wherein the input/output terminal (i.e., noted the digital interface of Takahashi '285 and the T1-T5 as taught by Kozuki '689) includes at least one contact member, said contact member being in electrical contact with said camera (201/20) to provide a signal between said printer (203/14) and said camera (201/20).

Regarding claim 24, the combination of Takahashi '285, Uekane '554 and Kozuki '689 shows wherein said input/output terminal (i.e., noted the digital interfaces used in the system of Takahashi '285) includes at lest one contact member, said contact member (i.e., T1 of Kozuki '689) being in electrical contact with said camera (201/20) to provide power between said video printer (203/14) and said camera (201/20)(col. 5, lines 1+ of Kozuki '689).

Regarding claim 30, it is noted that claim 30 substantially contains the same limitations as claims 21-24, thus, rejected for the same reasons as discussed for the claims 21-24 (i.e., see

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the Examiner's comment above). Furthermore, it is noted that claim 30 also recites that the guide rails guide an electrode terminal disposed on a bottom surface of the video camera, and the teaching of Kozuki '689 show that the guide rails guide an electrode terminal disposed on the side of the camera, however, it is obvious that that the bottom of the video camera of Takahashi '285 can be naturally disposed on top of the printer housing, thus, when the system of Takahashi '285 is modified by the teaching of Kozuki '689, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to dispose the guide rails of Kozuki '689 on a bottom of the video camera to guide an electrode terminal as taught by Kozuki '689, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art.

8. Claims 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi '285 in view of Uekane '554 as applied to claims discussed above, and further in view of Finelli et al. (U.S. 4,937,676).

Regarding claim 28, although Takahashi '285 does not explicitly state the use of "a locking mechanism" for locking the camera and the printer housing portion, it is obvious from the system of Takahashi '285 that the conventional camera VTR (i.e., noted that camera VTR 201/20 is also known as Camcorder) is coupled to the printer housing portion (203/14) via the digital interface without using a wire, thus, the locking mechanism is obviously needed to be provided to releasably secure the connection between the camera VTR (201/20) and the printer housing (203/14), and this is further evidenced by Figs. 1 and 2 of Finelli '676.

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In view of teaching of Finelli '676, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Takahashi '285 by providing the locking mechanism (i.e., Figs. 1 and 2, the elements' 67 and 72 of Finelli '676) as taught by Finelli '676, and such a modification clearly would provide an easy connector which is free from the inconvenience of complicated wiring or rewiring of the cable as desired by Takahashi '285.

Regarding claim 30, although Takahashi '285 discloses (i.e., see col. 22, lines 20-30 of Takahashi '285) that it is desired to simplify use the connection means which would eliminate a complicated wiring, the combination of Takahashi '285 and Uekane '554 does not explicitly show wherein the printer housing portion has a pair of guide rails, the guide rails being formed at a portion of the printer housing portion to which the camera is attached, and the guide rails guide an electrode terminal disposed on a bottom surface of the camera to the position at which electrode terminal comes in contact with the input and output connection terminal as recited in the present claimed invention.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Finelli '676. In particular, Finelli '676 teaches use of a pair of guide rails on the printer housing portion (i.e., noted the member 65 contains a pair of guide rails 66 and 68 for guiding the electrode terminal 78 disposed on a bottom surface of the camera attaches to the printer housing 14), and guide rails (i.e., the elements 66 and 68) being formed at a portion of the printer housing portion (14) to which the camera (18) is attached, and the guide rails guide an electrode terminal (78) disposed on a bottom surface (20) of the camera (18) to the position at

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which electrode terminal (78) comes in contact with the input and output connection terminal (70) as recited in the present claimed invention.

In view of the above, having the system of Takahashi '285 and then given the well-established teaching of Finelli '676, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Takahashi '285 by providing the pair of guide rails (i.e., Figs. 1 and 2 of Finelli '676) as taught by Finelli '676, and such a modification clearly would provide an easy connector which is free from the inconvenience of complicated wiring or rewiring of the cable as desired by Takahashi '285.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Sugiyama '315 show a printer housing connected to the camera for printing the image from the camera unit.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aung S. Moe whose telephone number is 703-306-3021. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (9-5).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Aung S. Moe
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2612

A. Moe
March 30, 2004